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Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

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Confirmation No.: 9219

Application No.: 09/988,954 MAR 29 2004

Attorney Docket No.: 780-A02-006-11

Filed: November 21, 2003 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Group Art Unit: 3738

For: TISSUE STABILIZATION METHOD

Examiner: P. Prebilio

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

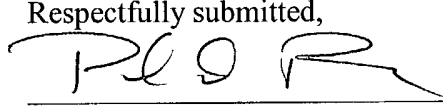
In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all foreign patent applications and other non-U.S. patent publications submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed references are being submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2). Applicant notes that an information disclosure statement listing U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications was electronically submitted March 23, 2004, and no copies were enclosed pursuant to the USPTO's waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) copies of foreign patent applications.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Dated: MARCH 23, 2004 Respectfully submitted,  


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Attorney for Applicant

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

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Application Number		09/988,954					
Filing Date		November 21, 2001					
First Named Inventor		P. Bonutti					
Group Art Unit		3738					
Examiner Name		P. Prebilic					
Attorney Docket Number		780-A02-006-11					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	DE 3707787	A1	Gruendler	09/22/1988	
	AB	EP 0192576	A1	Medicorp Research	08/27/1986	
	AC	FR 2344267	A1	Ulrich	10/14/1977	
	AD	WO 88/01517	A1	Materials Consultants	03/10/1988	

OTHER REFERENCES - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIP Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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